

## MORRIS CENTRAL SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION

**Date of Meeting:** October 11, 2018

**Kind of Meeting:** Regular

**Board Members Present:** Margaret Caezza, Wendy Moore, Mary Dugan, Emily Boss, Russell Tilley

**Others Present:** Matthew Sheldon, Superintendent; Katharine Smith, Principal; Staff Members Lorraine Miller, Kelly Catella; Students Reanen Goodspeed, Matthew Murphy, Tylor Kopp, Kyle Martin

The meeting was called to order by President Margaret Caezza at 5:30 p.m. and immediately went into executive session to discuss negotiations on the motion of Mary Dugan, seconded by Wendy Moore and carried 5-0.

The Board came out of executive session at 6:36 P.M. on the motion of Mary Dugan, seconded by Wendy Moore, and carried 5-0.

The minutes of the regular meeting of September 20, 2018 was approved as presented on the motion of Russell Tilley, seconded by Wendy Moore, and carried 5-0.

**Correspondence:** Margaret Caezza read a thank you card from David Dugan, son of board member Mary Dugan.

**Public Comment:** Matthew Sheldon thanked the Board for all the work they do and gave them gifts for Board Appreciation Month.

Kelly Catella and Lorraine Miller gave a gift to the Board for Board Appreciation Month. Lorraine Miller said she has been an elementary counselor for 27 years. Mrs. Miller pushes into the elementary classrooms and gives lessons on healthy social and environmental issues; self-awareness; relationships; respect, etc. Lessons on Mindfulness started last year. She talks to the students about their brains and how they can control themselves and their actions and teaches them how to refocus. Kelly Catella is the 7-12 grade counselor. She does the students schedules and gets them thinking about college and careers. Mrs. Catella did a College Information Night in the past, but this year is doing a College Application Week. Mrs. Crane's classroom will be helping the seniors with their college applications. There is a financial aid presentation at SUCO Oneonta next week. Mrs. Catella also does College For Every Students. The students do college visitation trips; they put on the Veterans' Breakfast on November 9<sup>th</sup>; and the students mentor some of the younger students. Mrs. Catella also helps the students with career skills and research different jobs.

### **Superintendent's Reports:**

Matthew Sheldon talked to the Board about the progress of the building project. All the univents are installed except for the art room. There was a thermal scan to check the roof to make sure there wasn't any standing water under the roofing material. The scan showed no moisture in the roofing system. They still need to finish the EIFS work and the curbing. This work will be done on the second shift. Some rooms had part of the sheetrock and insulation removed to clear out any moisture behind the walls from the leaks in the roof. The walls have been repaired. Sidewalks were damaged by a rigging company and will have to be repaired at their expense. The front doors are still not done. They are working on closing out the project.

Matthew Sheldon gave the Board a Transportation Report. We have six routes. We have a trip going to OAOC and Springbrook, a trip going to Unadilla Valley and Norwich, a trip to Center Street in Oneonta and a Pathfinder trip. We have one wheelchair bus. This year, with Board and voter approval, we will be purchasing one 65-passenger propane school bus and one 30-passenger wheelchair bus. The total cost before trade in is approximately \$196,284. We are trading in bus #96 for \$12,000. In 2019, all small buses will have backup cameras. We are training a new substitute bus driver.

### **Principal's Reports:**

Katharine Smith gave the Board handouts of the 3-8 ELA and Math results, and the yearly overall comparison. Last year all the state assessments were scored at the RIC. On Conference Day, Mr. Degan will be going over the seventh and eighth grade ELA state assessment. He felt some of the scores were off. Ms. Smith is going to check at the Principal's Academy to see if any other district had the same concerns.

Katharine Smith talked to the Board about Attendance Hero which is an initiative of the Response to Intervention support team. Data shows that many of the students that are struggling have a high absentee rate. Last year 24 students in grades kindergarten through sixth grade were absent more than eighteen days. Attendance Hero will encourage and reward students for being in school and on time every day.

Katharine Smith told the Board we must have eight drills by December 31<sup>st</sup>. We need six fire drills and two lockdown drills. We have had five fire drills and will soon be doing a lockdown drill. The first lockdown drill is announced, all others are unannounced. There will be an early go home drill held on November 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Katharine Smith talked to the Board about the Superintendent's Conference day to be held on October 19. Several of our teachers are going to SUCO. There will be a music workshop at MCS. Around 30 teachers from neighboring districts will be attending. The teacher aides will have a workshop here in the morning. The teachers staying here will be working on curriculum.

Katharine Smith talked to the Board about the upcoming events. October 19 is Superintendent's Conference Day; October 23<sup>rd</sup> is the 7-12 Concert Exchange at Edmeston Central School at 7:00 p.m.; October 26 and 27 is the Senior Play at 7:00 p.m.; October 30 is the 7-12 Concert Exchange at Morris at 7:00 p.m.; and October 31 is the Halloween Parade at 2:15 p.m., Haunted Hallway and the Rotary Halloween Party at 6:00 p.m.

**Be It Resolved** upon recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approve the following:

**The following business items 1 through 9 were approved as presented on the motion of Mary Dugan, seconded by Emily Boss, and carried 5-0:**

- 1 Approval of the Warrants # 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, and 22, as presented.
2. Approval of the Treasurer's Report for the month of August 2018, as presented.
3. Approval of the Central Treasurer's Report for the month of September 2018, as presented.
4. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the transfer of \$500,000 from the Capital Reserve to the Capital Fund to cover expenses for the capital project, retroactive to June 30, 2018.
5. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves amending item number 8 under Business on August 23, 2108 to read as follows:  
**Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves transferring \$30,000 from the Unassigned Fund Balance to the Capital Reserve for the purpose of purchasing school vehicles, **retroactive to June 30, 2018.**
6. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves amending item number 9 under Business on August 23, 2018 to read as follows:  
**Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves transferring \$200,000 from the Unassigned Fund Balance to the Capital Reserve, **retroactive to June 30, 2018.**
7. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves a tax refund for Alex Henderson, Parcel #219.00-1-11.00 in the amount of \$327.03 for the 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 school years. Mr. Henderson's property was reassessed.

8. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves a tax refund for Dan Moorehouse, Parcel #173.00-1-6.42 in the amount of \$29.31. Mr. Moorehouse overpaid his taxes.
9. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District accepts the Morris Central School Audit Committee's recommendation to approve the Independent Audit for the 2017-2018 school year done by Cwynar and Company.

**The following personnel items 1 through 12 were approved as presented on the motion of Russell Tilley, seconded by Wendy Moore, and carried 5-0:**

1. Approval of the maternity leave for Alyssa Plows expected to start on or about January 21, 2019. Mrs. Plows will be taking a 12-week leave. She expects to return to work on or about May 1, 2019. Mrs. Plows will use all her sick and personal days, the remainder of her leave will be unpaid.
2. Approval of the termination of Stephen Murn as a permanent substitute, retroactive to September 27, 2018.
3. Approval of the resignation of Christina Posh-Strain as an Assistant Activity Leader for the reception desk for after school, effective October 5, 2018. Mrs. Strain is willing to be a substitute.
4. Approval of Laura Hazen as a substitute Assistant Activity Leader for the reception desk, retroactive to October 5, 2018. Ms. Hazen's stipend is \$10.40 per hour (minimum wage).
5. Approval of Gerry Joy as an unpaid assistant coach for the boys' soccer team, retroactive to August 24, 2018.
6. Approval of Brian Roser as a substitute teacher (C), retroactive to October 5, 2018 for the 2018-2019 school year.
7. Approval of Tara Jorgensen as a substitute teacher aide and food service worker, retroactive to October 2, 2018, for the 2018-2019 school year.
8. Approval of Samantha Henness as a substitute teacher (NC), LTA, and teacher aide, retroactive to October 2, 2018, for the 2018-2019 school year.
9. Approval of Susan Sampson as a substitute teacher (NC), LTA, and teacher aide for the 2018-2019 school year.
10. Approval of Robert Sumner as a substitute teacher (NC) for the 2018-2019 school year.
11. Approval of Mary Novack as a substitute teacher aide and LTA for the 2018-2019 school year. Ms. Novack fingerprints were approved.
12. Approval of Cynthia Gumble as a substitute teacher (NC), LTA, and teacher aide for the 2018-2019 school year.

**The following Administrative item number one was approved as presented on the motion of Wendy Moore, seconded by Mary Dugan, and carried 5-0:**

1. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the second reading and approval of the following new policy:  
Policy # 7133 – Education of Students in Foster Care

**Public Comment:** None

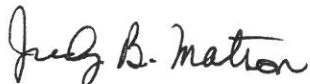
The Board went into executive session at 7:28 p.m. to discuss the medical, financial, credit, or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation and CSE on the motion of Wendy Moore, seconded by Emily Boss, and carried 5-0.

The Board came out of executive session at 7:35 p.m. on the motion of Wendy Moore, seconded by Mary Dugan, and carried 5-0.

On the motion of Wendy Moore, seconded by Russell Tilley, and carried 5-0; the IEP's of the specified CSE students' plans #2678, 2493, and 2346 was approved as presented. Students' Individual Education Plans (IEP) was viewed online, in executive session, on an as needed basis.

The Board adjourned at 7:36 p.m. without further discussion on the motion of Emily Boss, seconded by Russell Tilley, and carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Judy B. Matson".

Judy B. Matson  
District Clerk